

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
generating, automatically with an electronic device without user intervention, a private local network search request in response to an original search request, the local network search request to cause a search to be performed on electronic documents ~~unconsciously captured by a local network device, wherein the unconsciously captured documents are~~ stored by a device that is part of a private local network and further wherein one or more of the ~~unconsciously captured~~ documents are saved in the absence of an explicit command by a user to save the electronic documents and in response to another user specified function associated with the electronic documents, the search of the electronic documents on the local network ~~unconsciously captured~~ to be performed according to search parameters of the original search request;

generating, automatically with the electronic device without having to wait for a search result of the local network search request from the local network and in addition to the local network search request, an external network search request in response to the original search request, the external network search request to cause a search to be performed on electronic documents available from devices that are part of an external public network via a network portal of an external network according to the search parameters of the original search request; and

generating a single search report at the electronic device based on the search results of the private local network search request and the public external network search request.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the local network device comprises a file management appliance.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the file management appliance generates the local network search request and the external network search request.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the file management appliance performs a search of the unconsciously captured electronic documents in response to the local network search request.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein an Internet portal performs a search of the electronic documents available via a network portal of an external network in response to the external network search request.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the local network search request and the external network search request are generated by a portal appliance in response to the original search request.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the single search report is generated by combining at least portions of content from the search results of the local network search request and the external network search request without revealing the associated unconsciously captured electronic documents of the local network to the external network.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the search report is one of a Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) document and an Extensible Markup Language (XML) document.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the single search report is generated by integrating the external and local network search results, wherein the external network search result specifies where and how the local network search result is to be integrated into the external network search result in order to form the single search report.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the search report comprises an advertisement selected based on the external network search request.

11. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the search report comprises an advertisement selected based on analysis of documents indicated by search results.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

generating a third search request in response to the original search request, the third search request to cause a search to be performed on electronic documents available via a second network portal of the external network according to the search parameters of the original search request;

analyzing search results of the local network search request, the external network search request, and the third search request; and

generating the single search report in response to the analysis of the search results, wherein the single search report is generated in accordance with a format specified by the electronic device.

13. (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, cause one or more electronic devices to:

generate, automatically with an electronic device without user intervention, a private local network search request in response to an original search request, the local network search request to cause a search to be performed on electronic documents ~~unconsciously captured by a local network device, wherein the unconsciously captured documents are~~ stored by a device that is part of a private local network and further wherein one or more of the unconsciously captured documents are saved in the absence of an explicit command by a user to save the electronic documents and in response to another user specified function associated with the electronic documents, the search of the electronic documents on the local network ~~unconsciously captured~~ to be performed according to search parameters of the original search request;

generate, automatically with the electronic device without having to wait for a search result of the local network search request from the local network and in addition to the local network search request, an external network search request in response to the original search request, the external network search request to cause a search to be performed on electronic documents available from devices that are part of an external public network via a network portal of an external network according to the search parameters of the original search request; and

generate a single search report at the electronic device based on the search results of the private local network search request and the public external network search request.

14. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 13 wherein the local network device comprises a file management appliance.

15. (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 14 wherein the file management appliance generates the local network search request and the external network search request.

16. (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 14 wherein the file management appliance performs a search of the unconsciously captured electronic documents in response to the local network search request.

17. (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 14 wherein an Internet portal performs a search of the electronic documents available via a network portal of an external network in response to the external network search request.

18. (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 13 wherein the local network search request and the external network search request are generated by a portal appliance in response to the original search request.

19. (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 13 wherein the single search report is generated by combining at least portions of content from the search results of the local network search request and the external network search request without revealing the associated unconsciously captured electronic documents of the local network to the external network.

20. (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 19 wherein the search report is one of a Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) document and an Extensible Markup Language (XML) document.

21. (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 19 wherein the single search report is generated by integrating the external and local network search results, wherein the external network search result specifies where and how the local network search result is to be integrated into the external network search result in order to form the single search report.

22. (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 19 wherein the search report comprises an advertisement selected based on the external network search request.

23. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 19 wherein the search report comprises an advertisement selected based on analysis of documents indicated by search results.

24. (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 13 further comprising:

generating a third search request in response to the original search request, the third search request to cause a search to be performed on electronic documents available via a second network portal of an external network according to the search parameters of the original search request;

analyzing search results of the local network search request, the external network search request, and the third search request; and

generating the single search report in response to the analysis of the search results, wherein the single search report is generated in accordance with a format specified by the electronic device.

25. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

a first device to automatically capture electronic documents from a private local network; and

an application to be executed by the first device to search the captured electronic documents that have been saved in the absence of an explicit command by a user to save the electronic documents and in response to another user specified function associated with the electronic documents in response to a search request, wherein the application also generates an external document search request in response to the search request without having to wait for a search result of the local network,

wherein the first device transmits the external document search request to a second device on an external public network, wherein the second device on the external public network performs the external document search request to generate a search of electronic documents from an external network, and

wherein the first device combines the private local network and the external public network search results to generate a single search report.

26-29. (Canceled)

30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the external document search is performed by an Internet portal.

31. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the search of captured electronic documents is performed by the first device.

32-34. (Canceled)

35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the single search report is generated by combining at least portions of content from the search results of the local network search request and the external network search request without revealing the associated captured electronic documents of the local network to the external network.

36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the single search report is generated by integrating the external and local network search results, wherein the external network search result specifies where and how the local network search result to be integrated into the external network search result in order to form the single search report.

37. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the first device further generates a second external network search request to the external network which is performed by a third device on the external network and analyzes the search results of the captured electronic documents, the external document search request, and the second external network search request, wherein the single search report is generated in response to the analysis of the search results and the single search report is generated in accordance with a format specified by the first device.